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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

James W. Schumm, et. al.

Serial No.

Filed:

I, Diane J. Frauchiger, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date of my signature.

Diane J. Frauchiger
Signature
February 15, 2001
Date of Signature

"MATERIALS AND METHODS FOR IDENTIFYING AND ANALYZING INTERMEDIATE TANDEM REPEAT DNA MARKERS"

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This application is a Divisional of U.S. Serial No. 09/018,584 filed under 37 CFR 1.53(b). Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the subject application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-21.

Please amend the following claims to read as follows:

22. (Amended) A method for detecting a target intermediate tandem repeat DNA sequence having a low incidence of stutter artifacts, comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a sample of DNA having at least one target intermediate tandem repeat sequence, wherein the target intermediate tandem repeat sequence is a region of the DNA containing at least one repeat unit consisting of a sequence of five (5), six (6), or seven (7) base pairs repeated in tandem at least two (2) times; and

(b) amplifying the target intermediate tandem repeat sequence using at least one oligonucleotide primer, comprising a sequence which is complementary to and flanks a region of a double-stranded DNA marker containing a template intermediate tandem repeat sequence, wherein the template intermediate tandem repeat sequence is a region of the DNA marker which contains the repeat unit sequence repeated in tandem at least two (2) times, provided that the DNA marker has a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:32, SEQ ID NO:36, SEQ ID NO:37, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:39, SEQ ID NO:40, SEQ ID NO:41, SEQ ID NO:42, and SEQ ID NO:43; and

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